There is no other sacred region in this Brahmmanda than the Venkatadri. Lord Sri Venkateswara has been the Supreme and will be. It was None other than the Vaikunthavasi, Lord Narayana, who descended upon the earth, at Tirumala, as Srinivasa, the kaliyuga avatara, for the sake of all of us born in this Yuga.

Great are His leelas. He is the Saviour Of all those who bestow their ardent faith in HIM; liberating their souls and granting mukti.

Bhakti has no bounds nor can it be measured. It is rather a path to reach God and God doesn’t discriminate among His Bhaktas; all are equal.

It is only His grace that I could write this vratham. He gave it to all of us through me. I am only a media. I humbly bow unto the Lord to express my gratitude for the same. I also vow to serve the Lord for a lifetime and strive to spread the Venkata tatwam among one and all.

Sriyah Kantaya Kalyana Nidhaye Nidhayerdhinam

Sri Venkata Nivasaya Srinivasaya Mangalam

SRI VENAKTESWARA VRATHAM can be performed in two ways. In the FIRST METHOD you can call a priest and perform it in an elaborate way like we do Sri Satyanarayana Vratam. In the SECOND METHOD, you can go directly to stories and offer any Prasad to LORD SRINIVASA after reading the stories. If you have time you can read ASHTOTRAMS of LORD SRINIVASA, GODDESS SRI MAHALALKSMI and GODDESS SRI PADMAVATHI. You will be equally graced by LORD SRINIVASA for either procedure. Pray to Lord Sri Ganesha and all Gods before reading the stories. Millions of devotees read the five stories in the book every Saturday and are leading peaceful and prosperous lives. You do not have to follow any rogouros procedure. After taking bath in the morning, sit in your puja room or any serene place and read the five stories. Keep a photo of Lord Srinivasa with Sridevi and Bhodevi before you. If you can not get such photo, you can keep a photograph of Lord Sri Venakteswara alone too.
Sri Venkateswara Vratam Procedure

The simplest way to seek Sri Venkateswara Swamy’s Blessings and Grace in Kaliyuga is by performing this Vratam. One shall overcome all difficulties in one’s life immediately after doing this Vratam. Ordained by the Lord Himself, this Vratam is very easy to perform. It can be performed by anyone anywhere. All financial, health and various other problems related to mental and physical conditions will surely be resolved if one performs this Vratam. One can perform this Vratam also during or before another ‘ Shubha karyam’ like Gruhapravesham, Kalyanam etc in one’s own house. Anyone seeking a good career and positive results in one’s own business should also perform this Vratam for fruitful results. However, the months of Margasira, Magha, Karthika or the days with tithis—Pournami, Panchami, Saptami, Ekadasi or on the days of Sravana, Swati nakshatras yields favourable results.

This Vratam can be performed either in the morning or evening time on a given day. This Vratam comprises 5 chapters. The first one has been inspired by the Lord Himself and the remaining 4 by the great rushis— Viswamitra, Vasishta, Bharadwaja and Atri. This Vratam can be performed not only in one’s house, own or rental, but also in a temple or any other holy place or even on the banks of a river.

It is recommended that one invites one’s friends and relatives on the day one wishes to perform the vratam. First of all, the ‘puja area’ has to be cleaned properly. A ‘mantapam’ has to be installed in the ‘puja area’ with the Lord’s photo placed on it. A photo of kalyana Venkateswara Swamy along with his Consorts Sridevi and Bhudevi is recommended. One also needs to place a small idol of the Lord or a one rupee coin for use during the Puja and then arrange the Kalasam.

The Puja starts with the worship of the Lord Vinayaka (made of turmeric) to enable one to do the Vratam with no interruptions or obstacles. The Navagraha Devatas and Ashta Dikpalakas have to be invoked to be virtually present in the Puja according to the method given in the Puja vidhanam and one has to pray to them meditating upon their forms.

Whoever performs the Vratam with full faith/devotion(Bhakti/Shraddha), the Lord shall surely come to him/her in some form and seek the Prasadam!

We have to offer Tulasi leaves, coconuts, fruits and flowers to the Lord in all devotion. Then we have to read the 5 chapters prior to the offering of Naivedya and then have the same as Prasadam. This is bound to yield instant good results!

After each chapter, a coconut has to be offered as ‘Naivedya’. Or You can break only one coconut at the end of the vratham. For the Maha Prasadam—wheat rawa, sugar have to be mixed with ghee like that of the Satyanarayana Swamy Prasadam. If possible add banana with the Prasad before offering the same to the Lord. One also must not forget to utter Govinda Govinda Govinda after the completion of each chapter.

Since Swamy Varu is fond of tulasi leaves, one has to make sure to use them in the Puja for very good results. The Tulasi leaves can also be distributed among the invitees along with the Prasad after the Puja gets over. Tulasi leaves help heal many diseases and bestow ashta aishwarya(eight forms of
wealth). The coconuts offered during/completion of Puja must be broken into small pieces and distributed along with the Maha Prasadam.

You can also do in simpler way by straighhtaway reading the five stories and offerineg any fruit or sweet as Prasad to Lord.

Lastly, all of us need to understand that it is only the Lord who is aware of all our problems and we can seek His Grace for Liberation and Salvation, through this Vratam. This Vratam brings good health, happiness and prosperity to every bhakta who conducts it.

**Puja items:**

- 7 coconuts--- 1 for kalasam and 5 to offer after each of the 5 chapters are read, 1 to offer at the end as Naivedya...OR two coconuts,one for kalasam and the other to be offered at the end of the whole vratam
- Flowers
- Kumkum/turmeric powder
- Fruits including bananas for Naivedya
- Tulasi leaves
- Sandalwood powder
- Akshatas(dry rice grains made yellow with turmeric and a drop of oil)
- Dhoop/incense sticks, camphor, nut powder,
- Pasupu kommulu, khajjuralu,vakkalu
- Beetel leaves
- One round vessel frfor mantapam(kalasam)
- Small glass for Kalasam used in puja/one for achamanyam and small plate
- Panchamrutam(mixture of 5 ingredients--- half glass of cow milk, a spoon of curd, honey, sugar and ghee)
- Puja Vattulu and Deepam Kundulu
- A container to collect coconut water
- 2-3 wooden or metal pitalu (raised wooden or metal planks) or a ready-made mantapam/ a new cotton towel.

**Arranging the Kalasam:**

Make a rangoli, arrange the mantapam on the rangoli and spread the new cotton towel on it. Put some rice in the centre of the pitham and place the Chembu(small pot) filled with water on it. Place a coconut on top of it and put 2-3 mango leaves in it. Mark the coconut with kumkum after applying turmeric all over the coconut. This is the Kalasam.

Now place the Lord’s photo also on the Pitham. Use cow ghee for the deepam as far as possible instead of oil.
SRI GANESHA DHYANAM

VAKRATHUNDA MAHAKAYA KOTHI SURYA SAMARABHA

NIRVIGHNAM KURUME DEVA SARVAKARYESHU SARVADA

SHUKLAM BHRADARAM VISHNUM SASIVARNA M CHATHURBHUJAM

PRASANAVADHANAM DHYAYETH SARVA VIGNOPHSHANTHAYE ||

THADEVA LAGNAM SUDENM THADEVA TARABALAM CHANDRABALAM THADEVA||

VIDYABALAM DEVABALAM THADEVA LAKSHMIPATHE TANRIYAGAM SMARAMI ||

ACHAMANAM

Take water from the small tumbler in front of you drink 1 spoon while

Saying OM KESHAVAYA SWAHA

Take another spoon and drink saying

OM NARAYANAYA SWAHA

Take another spoon and drink saying

OM MADHAVAYA SWAHA

Take a spoon and pour it in the plate before you saying

OM GOVINDAYA NAMAHA

Then chant the following names of the lords without taking water or anything

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<td>OM UPENDRAYA NAMAHA</td>
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<td>OM SANKARSHANAYA NAMAHA</td>
<td>OM HARYE NAMAHA</td>
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<td>OM VASUDEVAYA NAMAHA</td>
<td>OM SRI KRISHNAYA NAMAHA</td>
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BHUTHOCHATANAM
UTHISHTA BUTHAPISACHA ETHE BHOMI BHAARAKE
ETHESHAM VIRODHENA BRAMAKARMA SAMARABH
(permission to practice the following behind yourself, then touch your nose and do achamanya as below)

PRANAYAMAM
OM BHU OM BHUVA OM SUVA OM JANA OM THAPA OM GAM SATHYAM
OM THATSUVITHURVARENYAM BHARGO DEVASYA DEMAIH PRACHODHAYATHU
OM APOJYOUTH RASAMRUTHAM BHRAMA BHURBHUVASUVAROM.
MAMUPATHA DURITHAKSHAYA DWARA SRI PARAMESWARA PREETHAYRDHAM
SHUBHE SHOBHANA MUHURTHE SRI MAHAVSHNORAJAYA PRAVARTHA
MANASYA AYABHAMANA DVITHIYA PARARTHE SHWETHA VARAHA KALPE
VAYMASWATHA MANVANTHERE KALIYUGE PRADHAMAPADHE JAMBUDWEEPE
BHARATHA VARSHE BHARATHA KANDE MERODAKSHINA DIGBAGHE
SRISAILASYA PRADHESHE KRISHNA GODAVARI MADHYABHAGE SWA SHOBANE
GRUHE SAMASTHA DEVATHA BRAHMANA HARIHAA SANIDHE AASMINA
VARTHAMANE VYAVAHARIKA CHANDHRAMANENA SWASTI SRI

Say the current year telugu name NAMA SAVACHARE _____ say the aayananam name (utharayanam or dhakshinayanam) AAYANE say current ruthu name RUTHU

Say the current hindu month name MAASE say paksha name should be krishnapaksha or shuklapaksha PAKSHE say the lunar thidhi name THIDHE

Say the day of week name in Hindu VASARE say your gotra then GOTRA

Say your name NAMADEYA DHARMAPATHNI SAMETHASYA ASKAKAM
SAHAKUTUMBA SHEMA STAYRAY, DHAYRYYA VIJAYA AAYURAROGYA
AISHWARYABHIVRADAM DHARMARTHA KAAMA MOKSHA CHATHURVIDHA PALA
PURUSHARTHA SIDYARDHAM MAMOPATHA DURITHAKSHYA DWARA SRI
Touch the water in the little glass in front of you.

**KALASARADHANA**

This is the little kalasam you use for praying not the one arranged with the coconut.

Keep the little glass filled with water in front of you and pray to it with Kumkum, Turmeric and Sandalwood and put a flower in it.

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KALASASYA MUKHE VISHNU KANTE RUDHRASAMSRITHA
MULE TATHRA STHTHO BHRAMA MADYEMATHRAGANASRITHA
KUKOUTHU SAGARASARVE SAPTHADWEEPA VASUNDHARA
RUGHVEDHO YAJURVEDA SAMAVEDHO HADARVANA
ANGESHCHA SAHITA SARVE KALSAMBA SAMASRITHA
KALASHE GANDHA PUSHAPKSHA THAN NIKSHIPTHA HASTHEACHADHYA
APOO VA IDGAM SARVAM VISWABHOTHANYAPA PRANAVA AAPPA PASHAVA AAPONNA
VAAPOMRUTHA MAAPA SAMRUDAPO VISRADAPA SWARADAPASHCHANDHAGAPYAPO JYOHIGAM PYAPO
YAJAGAMSHYAPA SATHYAMAAPA SARVA DEVATHA AAPOBHOORBHAVASUVA RAP OM
GANGECHA YAMUNEHEVA GODAVARI SARASWATHI
NARMADE BANDU KAVERI JALE SMIN SANNIDEKURU
KAVERI TUNGA BADHRACHA KRASHNAVENICHA GOUTHAMI
KALSHODHEN DEVAMATHMANAM PUJJAA DRAVYANI CHA SANPROKSHA
```

(Take the water from the little glass and sprinkle it with a flower or tulasi leaf on the god and all the things kept for the puja, flowers, fruits, akshatam, kumkum, turmeric etc. and also on yourself and all people participating in the puja)
**SRI GANESHA PUJA**

Make a small Ganesh on a beatle leaves or small silver plate with turmeric powder mixing it with water to make it wet and like a thick paste. It need not be in the correct form just make it like a small hill. Put kumkum on it and pray to it as follows.)

SHUKLAM BARADHARAM VISHNUM SHASHIVARNAM CHATURBUJAM

PRASANNAVADHANAM DYAYETHI SARVA VIGNOPASHANTHAYE

ADHOU NIRVIGNENA VRATHA PARISAMAPTHA RDHAM GANAPATHI PUJAM KARISHYE

GANANAM TWANGANA PATHIGAM HAVAMAHE

KAVIM KAVINA MAAPAMASHRAVASTHAVAM.

JYESHTARAJAM BRAMANAM BRAHMANASWATH

AANASHRNYA NUTHIBHI SIDHASADHANAM

SRI MAHAGANADIPATHYE NAMAHA DYAYAMI DYANAM SAMARPAYAMI

AAVAHAYAMI RATHNA SIMHASAM SAMARPAYAMI PADYE PAADYAM SAMARPAYAMI HASTHE ARGYAM SAMARPAYAMI MUKHE AACHAMANYAM SAMARPAYAMI.

AAPOHI PPAMAYOUBHOOVASTHANA URJDADAATHANA MAHERANAAYA CHAAKSHASE YA VASIVATHA MOURASASTHSYA

**PRANA PRAUTHSHTA**

OM ASUNITHE PUNARASMASU CHUKSHU PUNA

PRAANAMIHAANODEHI BHOGAM JYOKVASHYEMA

SURYAMACHARASTHA MANUMTHE MRADHAYAN SWASTHI

AMRUHTHAM VAIPRANA AMRUTHAMAPA PRANAA NEVA

YADASDHANAMAAPAHVAYATHE

(Touch the lord’s idol)

SRI VENKATESWARA SWAMI AVAHAYAMI (welcoming the lord)

STHAPAYAMI PUJAYAMI (making him sit and praying to him)

STHIROHAVA

VARDHOBHAVA SUPRASANNOBHA
STHIRASANAM KURU

DHYANAM (Meditating on the lord Venkateswara,)

SHANTAKARAM BUJAGASAYNAM PADMANABHAM SURESHAM
VISHWAKARAM GAGANA SADRUSHAM MEGHA VARNAM SHUBHAM
LAKSHMI KANATHAM KAMALANAYANAM YOGIHRADYAN GAMYAM
VANDE VISHNUM BHAVBHAYAHAARAM SARVALOKAYKNATHAM
DYANAM SAMARPAYAMI
(Keep flowers and tulasi leaves on the lord)

AVAHAYAMI (Welcoming the Lord and his divine consorts)
AVAHAYAMI DEVESHA SIDDHIGANDHARVA SEVITHA
YADRAHASYAMIDAM PUNYAM SARVAPAAPAHAAROHA

AASANAM (Offering a throne of gold studded with all precious stones to the lord)
DEVA DEVA JAGANNADHA PRANUTH KSHESHANAASANA
RATHNA SIMHAASANAM DIVAYM GRUHAN MADSUDHANA
RATHNA SIMHASANAM SAMARPAYAMI
(Place a flower, tulasi leaf or akshathas on the lord)

PAADYAM (Offering the lord water to wash his feet)
VANCHITHAM KURUME DEVA DUSKRUTHAM CHA VINASAYA
PAADYAM GRUHANA BAGAVAN MATURUTSJGA SANSTHITHA
SRI LAKSMI PADMAVATHI SAMETHA SRI VENKATESWARA SWAMINE NAMAHA
PADYE PADYAM SAMARPAYAMI
(take some water from the little glass hand and leave it on the ground)

ARGHYAM (Offering water to wash his hands)
KURUSHVAME DYAM DEV SAPAAPARTHI BHAYAPAH
DADIKSHIRA PALOPETHAM GRAHAANAARYAM NAMOSTHUTHE
SRI LAKSHMI PADMAVATHI SAMETHA SRI VENKATESWARA SWAMINE NAMAHA

HASTE YOURARGYAM SAMARPAYAMI

(take some water from the little glass and leave some water in a small plate)

AACHAMANIYAM (Offering water to wash his face)

NAMA SATHYAYA SUDHAYA NITHYAYA JANARUPINE
GRAHABACHAMANAM DEVA SARVALOKAIK NAYAK
MUKHE AACHAMANIYAM SAMARPAYAMI

(take some water from the little glass and leave some water in a small plate)

PANCHAMRUTHA SNANAM

(Bathing the Lord Venkateswara with Milk, Curd, Ghee, Honey and sugar)

PANCHAMRUTHA MAYANITHAM PAYOUDHDHIGNATHAM MADHU
SARKARA SAHITHAM CHAIVADEVATHVAM PRATHIGRAHYATHAM
SRI LAKSMI PADMAVATHI SAMETHA SRI VENKATESWARA SWAMINE NAMAHA.
PANCHAMRUTHA SNANAM SAMARPAYAMI

(bath the lord with the panchamrutha mixture consisting of milk, curd, ghee, honey and sugar)

SHUDHODHAKA SNANAM

(Bathing the Lord Venkateswara with water or coconut water)

NARIKELA UDHAKAM GANAGA YAMUNADHI SAMANVITHAM
SHUDHODHAKAM GRAHANESHA SNANAM KURU YADHAVIDHI
SRI LAKSHMI PADMAVATHISAMETHA SRI VENKATESWARA SWAMINIE NAMAHA
SAMARPAYAMI

(Bathe the lord with water)

VASTRAM

(Offering Lord Venkateswara, Goddess Lakshmi and Goddess Padmavathi nice silk clothes)

TAPTHAKANCHANA SANKASAM PITHAMBHARA MIDHAM HARE SUGRAHANA JAGANNADHA SRINIVAASA NAMOSTHUTHE
SRI LAKSHMI VENKATESHWARA SAMETHA SRI VEKATESHWARA SWAMINE NAMAHA VASTRAYAGYAM SAMARPIYAMI

(If you have a pair of new clothes (Dothi or pant shirt) you can offer it to the lord and wear it later, Also if there is a new sari you can offer it to Goddess Lakshmi and Padmavathi and use it later, if not make a small thread with cotton, apply little turmeric to it at 5 different places and offer it to the lord, In the mind imagine that you are offering him very nice silk clothes with gold colored border, similarly imagine you are offering Goddess Laksmi and Goddess Padmavathi very beautiful exquisite silk saris, The thoughts are very important)

YAGYOPAVITHAM
(Offering the Lord Venkateswara the sacred thread and Goddess Lakshmi and Goddess Padmavathi Mangalsuthra)

YAGYOPVITHAM PARAMAM PAVITHRAM
PRAGYA PATHERYATSAAJAM PARSTHTH
AAAYASYAMGRAYAM PRATHIMAECASHUBRAM
YAGYOPAVITHAM BALAMASHTU TEJA

SRI LAKSHMI PADMAVATHI SAMETH SRI VENKATESWARA SAMAMINE NAMAHA

YAGYOPAVITHAM SAMARPAYAMI

(Make a small thread with cotton apply turmeric fully to it to make it yellow join the two ends for it to look like a small circle and offer it to the lord)

GANDHAM
(Applying Sandalwood to the Lord Venkateswara, Goddess Lakshmi and Goddess Padmavathi)

CHANDHANA GARU KASTHURI GHANASARA SAMANVITHAM
GANDHAM GRAHANA GOVINDA NANAGANDHASHCHADARAYYA
SRI LAKSHMI PADMAVATHI SAMETHA SRI VENKATESHWARA SWAMINE NAMAHA DIVYA PARI MALA
GANDHANA SAMARPYAMI

(Put sandalwood paste on Lord Venkateswara, Goddess Lakshmi and Goddess Padmavathi)

AKSHATHAM
(Offering Akshatas to Lord Venkateswara, Goddess Lakshmi and Goddess Padmavathi)

GOVINDA PARAMANANDHA HARIDRA SAHITHAKSHATHAN
VISHESHWARA VISHALAKSHA GRAHAANA PARMESHWARA

SRI LAKSHMI PADMAVATHI SAMETH SRI VENKATESWHARA SWAMINE NAMAHA AKSHATHAN SAMARPAYAMI

(put Akshathas on the Lord and his consorts)

PUSHPAM

(Offering flowers to the Lord Venkateswara, Goddess Lakshmi and Goddess Padmavathi)

SUGANDHIM SUPUSHPANI JAIKUNDHAMAKHANICHA

MALATHI VAKULADINI PUJARDHAM RATHIGRAHYAM

SRI LAKSHMI PADMAVATHI SAMETHA SRI VENKATESWAHARA SWAMINE NAMAHA PUSHPAM SAMARPAYAMI

(Offer flowers to Lord Venkateshwara, Goddess Lakshmi and Goddess Padmavathi)

ADHANGA PUJA

(Praying to all parts of body of Lord Venkateshwara)

offer the lord a flower, tulasi leaves, akshatha or kumkum after saying each line

OM SRI VENKATESWHARAYA NAMAHA - PADHOU PUJAYAMI

OM SRI VENKATACHALADISHAYA NAMAHA - GULBOU PUJAYAMI

OM SRI PRADAYAKAY NAMAHA - JANINI PUJAYAMI

OM PADMAVATHI PATHYE NAMAHA - JAMPE PUJAYAMI

OM GYANAPRADHAYAKAY NAMAHA - JANINI PUJAYAMI

OM MAHABAGAYA NAMAHA - KATHIM PUJAYAMI

OM NIRMALAYA NAMAHA - UDHARAM PUJAYAMI

OM VISHALA HRUDHAYAYA NAMAHA - HRADHAYAM PUJAYAMI

OM PORISHUDHATMENE NAMAHA - STHANWE PUJAYAMI

OM SWARNA HASTHAYA NAMAHA - HASTHE PUJAYAMI

OM VARAPRADHAYA NAMAHA - KANTHAM PUJAYAMI

OM SARVESWARAYA NAMAHA - MUKHAM PUJAYAMI
OM RASAGYAYA NAMAHA - NASIKAM PUJAYAMI
OM PUNYA SHRAVANA KIRTHANAYANAMAHA - SRITHRE PUJAYAMI
OM PULLOMBUJA VILOCHANAYA NAMAHA - NETHRE PUJAYAMI
OM VARCHASWINIE NAMAHA – LALATHAM PUJAYAMI
OM RAMYA VIGRAHAYA NAMAHA – SARVANYANGAANI PUJAYAMI
OM SRI LAKSHMI PADMAVATHI SAMETHA SRI VENKATESWARA PARAMATHMENE NAMAHA DIVYA SUNDARA VIGRAHAM PUJAYAMI.

ASHTOHTHARA PUJA

(Praying to the Lord with 108 names)

You can keep putting kumkum, turmeric, akshathas, tulasi leaves or flowers on the lord after each name or hold them in the hand and put them on the lord after the saying all the names

VENKATESWHARA ASHTOTHRAM SHATANAMAVALI

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OM SURAPATHAYE NAMAH
OM NIRMALAYANAMAH
OM DEVAPUJITHAYA NAMAH
OM CHATHURBHUIJAYA NAMAH
OM CHAKRADHARAYA NAMAH
OM TRIDHAMNE NAMAH
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OM DHORDHANDAVIKRAMAYA NAMAH
OM PARATHPARAYA NAMAH
OM PARABRAMNE NAMAH
OM SRI VIBHVE NAMAH
OM JAGADVYAPINENAMAH
SRI LAKSHMI ASHTOTHARA SHATANAMAVALI

Om Prakrityai Namah
Om Vikrityai Namah
Om Vidyayai Namah
Om Sarvabhuutahitapadaayai Namah
Om Shradioorayai Namah
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Om Adityai Namah
Om Ditye Namah
Om Dipaayai Namah
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DHOOPAM

DASANGAM GUGULOPETHAM GOGHRThENA SAMANVITHAM

DHUPAM GRAHANI DEVESA SARVALOKHA NAMSARINA

SR LAKSHMI PADMAVATHI SAMETHA SRI VENKATESWARA SWAMINE NAMAHA

DHOOPAMAGHRAPIYAMI

(Light the joss sticks or agarbathis and show them to the lord, If you have special dhoops you can light them too)

DEEPAM

THRILOKESHA MAHADEVA SARVAGYANA PRADHAYAKA

DEEPAM DASYAMI DEVESHA RAKSHAMAM BHAKTHAVATSALA

SRI LAKSHMI PADMAVATHI SAMETHA SRI VENKATESHWARA SWAMINE NAMAHA DEEPAM DARSIYAMI

(Sprinkle little water around the lamps and show them to the Lord)

NAIVaiduHYAM

SARVABHAKSHESHCHA BHOASHCHA RASEPSHDHI SAMANVITHAM

NAIVEUdHYANTHU MAYANITHAM GRAHAANI PURUSHOTHAM

SRI LAKSHMI PADMAVATHI SAMEHTA SRI VENKATESHWARA SWAMINE NAMAHA

NAIVAYDYM SAMARPAYAMI

(If banana say ‘KADHALIPALAM” if coconut say “NARIKELAM” if piece of jaggery say “GOODHOPACHARAM” NIVEDHAYAMI )

OM PRANAYA SWAHA  OM APAANAYA SWAHA  OM VYANAAYA SWAHA

OM UDHAANAYASWAHA  OM SAMANAYASWAHA  OM PARABHRAMANEYE NAMAHA

OM BHOORBHUVASWAHA THATSUVITUHURVARENYAM BHARGO DEVASYA DHEEMAHI DHIYOYONA PRACHODHAYATH OM PO JYOTHIRAPO MRTHAM BHORAM BHORBHUVASUVAROM

MADHYE MADHYE PaniYM SAMARPAYAMI

AMRUThA PIDANAMSI UTHARAPOSANAM SAMARPAYAMI HASTE PRAKSHALI YOUMI PADOU PRAKSHALAYAMI PUNARAACHIMANIYAM SAMARPAYAMI
THAMBOOLAM

POOGIPALAY SAMARPURA RAGVALLIDALAIRUTHAM

MUKTHI CHOORNA SAMAYUKTHAM THAMBHOOLAM PRATHIGRUVHYATHAM

THAMBOOLAM SAMARPIYAMI

NIRAJANAM

SRIYE KANTHAYA KALYANI NIDHYE NIDHYERDHANAOM

SRI VENKNIVASAYA SR NIVASAYA MANGLAM

SRI LAKSHMI PADMAVATHI SAMETHA SR VIENKTESWARA SWAMINE NAMAH

IRAJANAM DARSAYAMI (NIRAJANAM SAMARPANCHI UDHAIRAHU UDKAANI THISUKONI

NIRAJANANANTHARAM PUNARACHAMANIYAM SAMARPYAMI.

MANTHRAPUSHPAM

DATTA PRASTHDYAMADHAJAHAAAR SAKR PRAVIDWAN PRADISASCHTHASTRA

THAMEVAM VIDWANMRTTHA IHAA BHAVATHI NASYA PANDHA AAYANAYA VIDHYATHE

OM SAHAASTRA SHIRSHAM DEVAM VISWAKSHM VISHWASAMBHUVAAM

VISHWAM NARYANANAM DEVA MAKSHRAM PARAMAM PADAM

VISHWATHA PARAMANTHYAM VISHWAM NARAYANAGAM HAARIM

VISHWAMEVEDHAM PURUSHASTDDWISWMAPAJIVATHI

PATHIM VISHWASYATHMESWARAGAM SASWATHAGAM SHIVAMACHUTHAM

NARAYANAM MAHAJYEYAM VISHWATMANAM PARAYANAM

NARAYAN PAROJYOTHI RATMANAARAYANA PARA

NARAYANAARARAM BHRAHMHA TATWAM NARAYANA PARA

NARAYANA PRO DYATHA DYANAM NARAYANA PARA

YACHA KINCHIJGTSARAVAM DRSHYATHE SHRUYTHE PIVA

ANTHRBHAAISHCHHTSARVAM VYAPYANARAYANA STHITHA

ANANTHAMAVYAYAM KAVIGAM SAMADRENTHAM VISHWASAMBHUVAAM
PADMAKOS PRATHIKASAGAM HRADHAYAM CHAPYADHOMUKHAM
ADHONISHYA VITHASTYANE NABHYAMAPARI THISHTHI
JWALMAALAKULAMBAATHI VISHWA SYAYATHANAM MAHATH
SANTHATHAGAM SILAABISTHULABATHYA KOSSANIBHAM
TASYANE SUSHIRAGAM SUKSHAM THASMINTSRVAM PRATHISHTAM
THASYAMDYE MAHANGNI RVISVARCHI RVISWTHIO MOKHA
SOGRABHU GWBHAJANTHISHT NAHARA MAJAM KAVI
THIRYAGURDHA MADHSAAYA RASMYA SASYA SANTHATHA
SATHAPYATHI SWANDEHA MAPAADHTHLAMASTHKA
NILTHO YADHA MASYASTHA DWIDYULEKHEVA BHASWARA
NIVARASUKHAVATHANI PITHABHA SNUPAM
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SABHRAMA ASHIVA SAHARI SENDHRA SOKSHARA PAAMASWARAT
BHUTHAGAM SAHYAMPARAM BHRAMA PURUSHAM KRISHNA PINGALAM
URDHAREHAM VIRUPAKSHM VISHWA RUPAYA VAI NAMAH NAMAHA
OM NARAYANAYA VIDMAHE VASUDEVAYA DIMAHI
THONO VISHNU PROCHODHAYATH
RAAjadhirająya PRASAHYA SAVINE NAMO VAYAYAY SRavanAYA KURMAHE
NAMEKAA MANYAMAKAMAYA PRASAHYA PAAHINE NAMOVAYAVAY SRavanAYA KURMAHE
NAMEKAA MANAAMAKAMAAYA MAHYAM KAAMESWARO VAISRAVANO DADHAATHU KUBHERAAYA VAI SRavanAYA MAHARAJAYA NAMAH
OM THADBHRAMOm THADVAYU OM TATATMA
OM TATSATHYAM OM THATSRVAM OM TATHVURM NAMAH
ANTHASHCHARATHI BHUTHESHU GUHAAYAM VISHWAMAARTHI
TWAM YAGYE STHVAM VASHATKARSTHVAGAM MINDRASTHWAM RUDRASTHAVAM VISHNUSTWAM BHRAMASTHVAM PRAJAPATHI.
TWAM TADHAPA APOJYOTHI RASO MRUTHAM BHRAMA

BHOORBHUVA SUVAROMA

GADA PUNASJARDAJGKALVAK DVJARAVINDJJYJAYASH VAJRALASHCHITHA

HE SRINIVASA THWACHARANAMBUJHADWAYAM MADHIYA MURDHANA MALAJA

OM NIRANJANAYA VIDMAHE NIRABAASAYA DIMAHI

THANO SRNIVASA PRACHODHAYATH

SRI LAKSMI PADMAVATHI SAMETHA SRI VENKATESWARA SWMINE NAMAH

SUVARNA DIVYA MANTRAPUSPAM SAMARPAYAMI.

**PRADHIKSHINA NAMASKARAM**

YANI KANI PAAAPAANI JANMANTHARAKRTHANICHA

THANI THANI PRANAHYATHI PRADHAKSHINA PADEPADE

PAAPO HAM PAPAKARMA HAM PAPATHMA PAPASAMBHAVA

THRAHIMAAM KRAPAMAYA DEVA SARANAGATHA VVATSALA

ANYADHA SHARANAM NASTHI TWAMEVA SHARANAM MAMA

THASKATHKARUNYA BHAAVENA RAKSHA RAKSHA JANARDHANA

SRI LAKSMI PADMAVATHI SAMETHA SRI VENKATESWARA SWAMINE NAMAH AATHMAPRADAKSHINA

NAMASKARAN SAMARPYAMI

(Meditating on the lord turn in clockwise direction 3 times and then do sasthanghanamaskara

**VIVODHOPACHARA PUJAM**

CHATRAM DARAYAMI CHAAMARAM VICHAYAMI NRUTHYAM DARSAYAMI GITHAM SRAVAYAMI

VADYAM GHOSHAYAMI AANDHOLIKAN AAROHAYAMI AASWANI ROHAAYAMI GAJAANAAROHAAYAMI

SAMASTHA RANOPACHARA SAKTHYOPACHAAR YANTHROPCHA DEVOPCHAR SARVOPCHARA PUJAM

SAMARPAYAMI
KSHAMARPANAM
MANTRAHEENAM KRIYAHEENAM BHAKTHIHEENAM JANARDHANA
YATHPUJITHAM MAYADEVA PARIPURNAM THADHASTHUTHE
ANYAADYAANA VAHANADHI KSHODHA SHOPACHAARA PUJAYA CHA BHAGWAAN SARVATMKIKA SRI LAKSMI PADMAVATHI SAMETHA SRI VENKATESWARA SWARUPO BHAGWAAN SUPRITHA SUPRASANNO BHAVTHU.
SRI VENKATESWAR DEVPRASADAM SIRSAAGRAPAYAMI
AKAAL MRUTHYU HARNAM SARVAVYADHI NIVARANAM
SAMSTH PAPAKSHYOKARAM SRI SRI NIVASPADHODHAKAM PAVANAM SHUBHAM
First Chapter

Sri Bhagawan Uvacha

It was at Tirumala, the Bhooloka Vaikuntha, that Lord Sri Venkateswara, also known as Srinivasa, the kaliyuga Avatara of Lord Srimannarayana, on one of the auspicious days, addressed a bhakta by name ‘Viswapathi’ and asked him to popularize ‘Sri Venkateswara Vratam’ by writing the same under His aegis. In the Lord’s words, “Oh my dear bhakta Viswapathi, I am going to describe a special Vratam to you which is very easy to perform. This vratham is very dearer to my heart. People born in kaliyuga are facing great difficulties as a result of their bad deeds and poorva janma phalam. Some of them happen to be my devotees and are pleading with Me to help them do away with their hardships. They undertake all travails to reach Tirumala to seek My Darshan. I love My devotees very much. I take every devotee into My fold who completely surrenders himself/herself unto Me and follows the path of Dharma in his/her life.”

“The Vratam that I am about to describe to you shall become popular as ‘Sri Venkateswara Vratakalpam.’ This Vratam is very dear to Me. Whosoever performs this Vratam with Bhakti and Shraddha will immediately get rid of all his/her miseries. This Vratam can be performed by anyone and everyone anywhere. For very good results, the months of Margasira, Magha, Karthika or the Tithis Pournami, Panchami, Saptami, Ekadasi or the days with Sravana, Swati nakshatras can be chosen to perform the Vratam.

I know of all the various adversities faced by My Bhaktas in Kaliyuga. To overcome difficulties, be it financial, career, health or business or even to secure mental peace you can perform this Vratam. You can also perform this vratham before any auspicious function in your homes like marriages, house warming etc. The function will go on smoothly and without any hurdles by doing so. You will be blessed with prosperity and happiness.

You can perform this Vratam either in the morning or evening time of a day. It comprises of 5 chapters and all the chapters have to be read by the bhakta who performs the Vratam. You can perform it either at your own house or rented premises, in a temple, at any holy place or even on the banks of a river.

It is advisable to invite your friends and relatives for this vratham. This Vratam shall bestow good health, happiness, prosperity on all devotees performing the Vratam and those who attend the same and have Prasadam. Many maharshis dear to Me, performed this Vratam in the past and had My Divine Grace. If you perform the Vratam with full faith and devotion unto Me, it will surely yield positive results and bring happiness to you all.

I know your difficulties, limitations in this kaliyug, you will get the same benefit by doing this vratham which one got by doing a big yagna or yaga in the earlier yugas.
Before starting the vratham, clean the area chosen to perform the Vratam thoroughly. Arrange a mantapam and install My photo with My Consorts (Sridevi and Bhodevi) included. If you can not get such a photo, you can keep a photo of mine alone too. The mantapam can be arranged against a wall. You can also install photos of other Gods/goddesses of your choice. Either you meditate upon all the Navagrahas and Ashta Dikpalakas or invoke them at the beginning of the Puja. Pray and worship Lord Vighneswara (in turmeric) before you start. After the Puja, read the five chapters associated with the Vratam. This is the first chapter. The other four chapters have been virtually told by great rushis—Vishwamitra, Vasishta, Bharadwaja and Atri who are very dear to Me. After completion of the five chapters you can read Stotrams in My name that I am fond of. Do not forget to utter Govinda Govinda Govinda after each chapter is over.

You can also perform this vratham in a simpler way. I understand your limitations. You can do it all alone by meditating upon Me right in front of My photo, Lord Vinayaka, Navagrahas, Ashta Dikpalakas (just close your eyes and pray all those gods for a while). Then go to the stories straightaway and read them. Later you can offer any fruit as ‘Naivedya’ to Me and take it as My Prasadam. If you do not find a fruit you can offer any sweet or even sugar crystals. You will be greatly blessed after completion of the vratam.

I shall come to your house in some form if you perform the Vratam with full faith and devotion and bless your family always.”

In this manner, Sri SwamyVaru Himself described the Vrata Vidhan to a devotee named ‘Timmaraju Viswapathi Ramakrishna Murthy or Viswapathi’ on His abode Tirumala!

So we the people born in Kaliyuga should perform this Vratam and seek the Divine Blessings of Lord Sri Venkateswara. We shall not only overcome all our troubles soon after the Vratam is performed but also live peacefully all through our life.

End of First Chapter

Sriyah Kantaya Kalyana Nidhaye Nidhayerdhinam

Sri Venkata Nivasaya Srinivasaya Mangalam

Govinda...Govinda...Govinda
Second Chapter

Sri Vishwamitra Uvacha

This chapter has been inspired by the Grace and Blessings of one of the greatest saints Sri Vishwamitra.

In the words of the saint himself, “O people of Kaliyuga! Beloved devotees of Srinivasa! ‘Sri Venkateswara Vrata kalpam’, being followed and conducted by you all is Divine and highly sacred. It is an easy means to obtain lord Srinivasa’s Mercy in kaliyuga. Innumerable people, earlier performed the Vratam and secured Sri Srinivasa’s Blessings in fulfillment of their wishes. Let us all bow unto Lord Sri Venkateswara Swamy for gifting us such an easy Vratam.”

Once, long ago, there lived a beloved devotee of SriVenkateswara in the kingdom of Magadha by name Vishnuchittha . He had nine daughters. Though he was a great scholar, he lived in extreme poverty. His wife, Taramati was always engrossed in prayer and devotion to Lord Srimannarayana.

Vishnuchittha earned a meagre sum of money as a purohit at weddings at times and with great difficulty the couple could provide two meals a day for the entire family. All the daughters grew up into young girls. Taramati, their mother, always worried about how to get them married. She however continued to pray to Lord Srinivasa and days passed by.

O devotees of Srinivasa! As we all know Lord Srinivasa always protects His devotees who surrender themselves to Him. On the auspicious day of Magha Pournami, an old Brahmin knocked on the door of Vishnuchittha’s house early in the morning. He said that he belonged to Vanga Desa and on his way to a yaga, he happened to come to Magadha. He sought shelter at Vishnuchittha’s house for that night. He pleaded with Vishnuchittha to allow him to stay there until the following morning. Vishnuchittha readily agreed to the visitor’s wish and said he was fortunate to have a guest as the Puranas regard a guest as the Lord Himself. He took the old brahmin inside his house and followed the customary way of treating any guest.

On the same day in the afternoon, the old Brahmin addressed Taramati and asked why she was looking worried. She replied without any hesitation that she was worried about the marriage of their nine daughters. She said that he seemed to her a great tapaswi with a radiance that seemed to remind her of none other than Sri Maha Vishnu, the Vaikuntha Vasi. The old brahmin smiled and said to her that she could come over her worries and get all her daughters married successfully with the help of one amazing Vratam. He then called Vishnuchittha also narrated them the simple procedure of Sri Venkateswara Vratam.

Vishnuchittha said in excitement that it was a great moment and as Magha Pournami was an auspicious day, they would perform the Vratam the same day instead of some other day. Why should I wait for another day? Any good deed should be done immeditealy. The couple and their daughters made all arrangements, invited their near and dear ones and performed the Vratam in the evening with utmost faith and devotion as suggested by the old Brahmin. All the invitees who attended the Vratam took the Prasadam and left. Soon after, Vishnuchittha and Taramati prostrated at the guest’s feet and sought his
blessings. The old Brahmin also took the *Tirtham/Prasadam* and blessed them saying that their wishes would be fulfilled. He added, “May Lord Srinivasa and Goddess Lakshmi bless you.”

As it was night time and time to retire, Vishnuchittha handed over a torn old blanket to his guest and bewailed, “As I am a poor man, I’m unable to provide a better blanket to you, please forgive me and make do with this one for the night.”

The Brahmin smiled and asked Vishnuchittha not to worry and said he would rest in the outer porch of the house. Soon everyone was fast asleep.

Just before the break of dawn, way past after midnight, there was heavy rain accompanied by thunder and lightning. It was pitch dark and nothing was visible. Vishnuchittha worried about the brahmin’s condition but was helpless as he couldn’t see anything. He anxiously awaited the break of dawn along with his family. By morning heavy rain stopped and gave way to light showers. The family rushed out to see the condition of the old Brahmin but they were in for a surprise! There was no sight of the old Brahmin. Instead of the torn blanket, a silk yellow garment was there with the idol of Lord Sri Venkateswara. The couple then understood that it was none other than the Lord Himself who had come in the brahmin’s guise. It was indeed their good fortune though they hadn’t realized earlier. They felt extremely ashamed for having offered a torn blanket to the Lord. With these thoughts they carried the Lord’s idol inside and lo behold! Their house was transformed into a treasure of gold! Stacks of gold/money all over the place! They realized the importance of performing Sri Venkateswara Swamy Vrata Kalpam and praised the Lord in many ways.

Sage Vishwamitra concluded by emphasizing on the fact that the Lord will definitely visit His devotees in some form if they conduct the Vratam with *Bhakti/shraddha*. Vishnuchittha’s tale stands testimony to the above as to how the Lord Himself went to Vishnuchittha’s house in the guise of a guest, explained the importance and procedure of the Vratam, accepted *Tirtham/Prasadam* and blessed them with His Grace. Therefore it is recommended that all of us perform the Vratam and thereby receive the Lord’s blessings. Finally, the sage said, “*Sri Lakshmi Srinivasa kataksha Siddhirastu.*”

End of second chapter

*Sriyah Kantaya Kalyana Nidhaye Nidhayerdhinam*

*Sri Venkata Nivasaya Srinivasaya Mangalam*

*Govinda...Govinda...Govinda*
Third Chapter

Sri Vasishta Uvacha

With the blessings of Srimannarayana, the great tapaswi Sri Vasishta Mahamuni virtually inspired the third chapter. In his words, “O people of Kaliyuga! Beloved devotees of Srinivas! Sri Venkateswara Swamy of Tirumala is none other than Srimannarayana of vaikhunta. The Lord descended on Tirumala, in the Srinivasa avatara to help all His devotees overcome the difficulties in their lives. Performing Sri Venkateswara Vratam is the easiest means of attaining the Lord’s Grace. Those who perform the Vratam with faith and devotion bear the fruits of the same in the form of amazing wealth and prosperity.”

Long ago, there was a town called ‘Bhagyanagaram’ in the kingdom of Avanti. Most of the people in the town, as its name suggests, were rich and were very proud of their wealth. But they looked down upon the deprived and poor. They never prayed to God, even on auspicious days and considered themselves supreme. They were feeling great that they amassed lot of wealth. Lord Srimannarayana wanted to teach these highly egoistic people a lesson and enlighten them.

One day it was the ‘Toli Ekadasi’ day, a very auspicious day. No one even lighted a lamp in the temple of SriLakshmi Narayana, situated in eastern street of the town. The rich people were busy making merry. None in the town thought of doing puja. Suddenly, by evening, there was a heavy downpour with black clouds engulfing the town. The houses of the traders were flooded with water. It was pitch dark all over the town. By the next morning, the town drowned in water. All the houses, shops were washed away. People lost everything. Why this sudden calamity? No one understood the reason for the devastation. And then they noticed something very strange—all the huts on the outskirts of the town were intact. They were shocked and couldn’t believe their eyes. How come the huts survived the storm? As they stood puzzled, there was lightning and they heard a divine voice in the skies—“You Fools! You’ve faced the consequences of your conceited nature. You always gave credit to yourselves for your prosperity and never thought of God whereas there’s one great devotee of Mine by name Devayya in one of those huts. The poor man, Devayya, undertook the duty of lighting the lamp in the temple of your town every day. In addition, on every Ekadasi, Devayya performed Sri Venkateswara Vrata Kalpam according to his means. As a result, Devayya and his neighbourhood remained safe even after the thunderstorm. If you perform the Vratam, you will get back your lost wealth and prosperity.” Soon after hearing the divine voice all of them rushed to the temple. They helped each other to make arrangements for the puja and performed the Vratam collectively. Soon after, they went back to find their homes and lost wealth safe and secure as before. Thereafter, the entire clan of businessmen in that town religiously performed Sri Venkateswara Vratam on every Ekadasi and continued to live happily for the rest of their lives attained Moksha in the end.

End of third chapter

Sriyah kantaya Kalyana Nidhaye Nidherdhinam

Sri Venkata Nivasaya Srinivasaya Mangalam
This chapter has been virtually narrated by the great Bharadwaja Maharishi. In his words, “O people of Kaliyuga! Beloved devotees of Srimannarayana! Sri Venkateswara Vratam that you are all following is an amazing Vratam. It is the easiest means to fulfill all your desires by appeasing Lord Venkateswara. He has descended on Tirumala in the form of the Kaliyuga avatara Srinivasa from Vaikuntha to Grace you all. One can set foot on Tirumala and have Swamy’s Darshan only as a result of one’s punya phalam. It is only one’s purvajanma phalam that he gets a thought to perform Sri Venkateswara Vratham. One who performs, one who listens and the one who accepts Srivari Prasadam is entitled to His Grace.”

Once upon a time, there lived a trader named Dhanagupta in the Nagari village. He was a miser. No matter how prosperous he became, he remained a miser. He was highly conceited and deemed it his own greatness for having amassed such great wealth. Is it not true that even the mighty falls down one day due to their ego?

But Dhanagupta’s wife, Kanthimathi was a very devoted woman. They had three daughters. The third daughter Kumari was an ardent devotee of Lord Srinivasa and always chanted his name. She frequently visited the temple of Lord Venkateswara in their town without her father’s knowledge. The entire family took the Prasadam except her father. Kanthimathi always worried about her husband’s attitude.

One day, Kumari went to her friend’s house as they were performing Sri Venkateswara Vrata Kalplam. It was afternoon by the time the Vratam was over. She accepted Prasadam, packed a small amount of Prasadam and left for her house. It was very hot and Kumari was very thirsty after walking for a while. She remembered that her father’s shop was close by and went there to quench her thirst. She however did not tell her father of the Vratam as she was afraid he would scold her. She left the shop hurriedly after drinking water and forgot the Prasadam packet at the shop itself.

Suddenly there was chaos and confusion around the bazaar. There was a big fire and people ran here and there screaming loudly out of fear. Almost all the shops in that area were gutted in the fire, owing to the severe heat and dry storm. Dhanagupta was completely shaken and expected his shop also to be destroyed. Everyone ran out but he remained inside. Knowing very well that he may die, if he stayed inside he didn’t have the heart to go out. But worried if he stays a minute further he is sure die…In that anxiety he shook his hands and he felt some packet in his hands. Without second thoughts, he just gulped the contents of the packet and felt it sweet. Soon after He also felt his body and mind calming down.

A miracle happened at that instant!…The fire stopped at the adjacent shop. Not even a small spark fell on his shop. He was utterly amazed and dumbfounded. Incredible, he thought. How did it happen? Word spread around about the fire in the bazaar and Dhanagupta’s family rushed to the spot out of fear in no time. All along they prayed to the Lord Srivenakteswara in their minds. They too were surprised to see
how the fire had gutted all the shops except theirs. Then Kumari remembered the Prasadam packet. Dhanagupta realized what he ate in anxiety was nothing else but Lord’s prasad! Kumari explained to her parents about the Vratam and the Prasadam. Dhanagupta finally understood that it was the Prasadam that had saved him and his shop from destruction.

He begged the Lord to forgive him and invited everyone in the village performed Sri Venkateswara Vrata Kalpam the same evening. From then on he turned a great devotee of the Lord and spent the rest of his life in Swamy seva and attained Mukti at the end.

See how he was saved from a big catastrophe by consuming the Prasad that too without knowing it is Lord’s sacred prasad! One can understand how powerful Sri Venkateswar vratam is about. Bharadwaja maharshi reiterates and emphasises that all of us must perform Sri Venkateswara Vratam and seek the Lord’s Grace.

End of fourth chapter

Sriyah Kantaya Kalyana Nidhaye Nidhayerdhinam

Sri Venkata Nivasaya Srinivasaya Mangalam

Govinda...Govinda...Govinda
Fifth Chapter

Sri Atri Uvacha

Tirumala in Tirupati is the Bhooloka Vaikuntha. According to the Puranas, there is no other sacred region as the Tirumala and no other Supreme Force as Sri Venkateswara Swamy in the past or will there be in the future. Srimannarayana, in the form of Srinivasa loves His devotees very much. He takes care of all devotees who surrender to Him completely and pray to Him every day, following the path of Righteousness. Sri Venkateswara Vrata Kalpam is an easy means to seek the Grace of such a Great God!

The great maharishi Sri Atri virtually narrated the fifth chapter of this amazing Vratam in the following manner.

“O beloved devotees of Srinivasa! You are lucky to be born in Kaliyuga. The people of Kruta, Treta and Dwapara Yugas performed severe penance and lived austere lives in the worship of Lord Srimannarayana to seek His Blessings but in Kaliyuga mere chanting of His name brings fruitful results! One has to call Him with utmost devotion and the next minute He stands by one’s side. Such an epitome of Karuna(Compassion) is Lord Srinivasa. The Tirumala Kshetra is a Saligrama(sacred stone of Vishnu) Every single step taken on this sacred hill is the result of one’s own purva janma punyam.”

In olden days, there lived a washer man called Mitrudu in Koumara kingdom. He was a man of righteousness and lived a life of charity in addition to carrying out his duties as a washerman. But he worried a lot as he was handicapped. As he was lame, it was difficult for him to carry loads of washed clothes and deliver them in every house. Added to this, he had a big family. He could make his two ends meet with great difficulty. However he prayed to Lord Srinivasa everyday and believed that one day the Lord would shower His Grace on him. Lord Srimannarayana knew of Mitrudu’s hard life and also his faith in the Lord. No matter how great a devotee one is, one has to pay for one’s karmas in one’s previous janma and at the right time the Lord comes in some form to relieve one of one’s miseries.

On one evening Mitrudu was returning with the load of washed clothes back to the village, finding it very difficult to walk. He met an old Brahmin on the way. Owing to his good nature, he immediately put down his load and greeted the Brahmin by folding his hands. The Brahmin responded by expressing that he felt sorry for Mitrudu and his disability. Mitrudu replied and said, “You seem to be a great man. I am forced to work despite my disability for the sake of my large family. Can you suggest a way to overcome my disability?”

The Brahmin was more than willing to help and immediately told Mitrudu to listen carefully. He told Mitrudu that there is a Vratam that would not only get rid of his lameness but also bestow great prosperity. He would get thousand gold coins soon after completing the Vratam. But on one condition—he would have to give way half the number of coins to the old Brahmin the following day when he would come to meet Mitrudu.
Mitrudu was very happy and said to the old brahmin that it was his good fortune and asked him to explain the Vratam. He told the brahmin that he would perform the same that day itself. The Brahmin described in detail ‘Sri Venkateswara Vrata Kalpam.’

With great fervor, Mitrudu went back home, narrated the tale to his wife, invited his neighbourhood and performed the vratam. He took the teertham/Prasadam and distributed the same among the bhaktas. The moment the completed the vratam, there was some commotion outside his house. His son ran in and shouted to him that the royal guards had come there and had brought gifts sent by the king. The guards followed him in and told Mitrudu that the king had appointed Mitrudu as the royal washer man and gave him thousand gold coins as a reward. They told him to join his duty in the palace within a weeks’ time. Mitrudu’s joy knew no bounds. He couldn’t wait even for a day and left for the palace the following day with bag and baggage. He completely forgot about his promise to the old Brahmin. However on his way to the palace, he remembered but told himself he would meet him in a month’s time. He joined in the royal palace as a washer man and forgot all about the old Brahmin.

Days and months passed by. Lord Srimannarayana, who had taken the form of the old Brahmin, was angry with Mitrudu and wanted to teach him a lesson (typical nature of every human being is to pray to the Lord in difficulties and forget Him after getting prosperity.)

As a result of the Lord’s wrath, Mitrudu was alleged as the thief of the queen’s lost jewels the following day. Mitrudu was imprisoned and put behind bars. He was tortured by the prison guards in various ways. As Mitrudu was deeply disturbed over the happening, the Lord came in his dream and told Mitrudu the reason for his suffering. Mitrudu immediately apologised to the Lord and promised to perform the Vratam once in a month and offer half of his earnings to the Lord for the rest of his life. The Lord was immediately pleased with Mitrudu and forgave him.

As a result of the Lords’ Grace, Mitrudu was out of the prison the following day as the queen’s jewellery was found elsewhere and the king realized that Mitrudu was innocent. From then on, Mitrudu performed Sri Venkateswara Vratam every month and offered half of his monthly earnings to the Lord and spent the rest of his life happily until he attained Mukti.

End of Fifth Chapter

Sriyaha Kantaya Kalyana Nidhaye Nidhayerdhinam

Sri Venkata Nivasaya Srinivasaya Mangalam

Govinda Govinda Govinda

End of Sri Venkateswara Vrata Kalpam